

PROPOSED CLAIM CONSTRUCTIONS

67. (currently amended) ~~A computer program product including~~ An automated software test environment for automatically testing a software application, ~~said computer program product comprising:~~

computer readable memory;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a work flow manager for automatically managing said automated software test environment, said automated software test environment including a plurality of computer systems coupled to a server computer system utilizing a network, said work flow manager being executed utilizing said server computer system;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a plurality of ordered test phases to be executed in a specified order including at least an initialization test phase for preparing said test environment for testing said software application, said initialization test phase capable of being executed prior to an availability of said software application;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for transmitting an event to said work flow manager utilizing one of said plurality of computer systems to start execution of selected ones of said plurality of ordered test phases; and

instruction means within said computer readable memory for controlling execution of said selected ones of said plurality of ordered test phases utilizing said work flow manager in response to a receipt of events.

68. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, further comprising instruction means within said computer readable memory for executing an initialization test phase utilizing said work flow manager in response to a receipt of a build event by said server computer system, said build event being generated by one of said plurality of computer systems utilized to build said software application.

69. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, further comprising:

said instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a plurality of ordered test phases further comprising instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a plurality of ordered test phases including an execution test phase for executing a plurality of tests on said software application; and

instruction means within said computer readable memory for executing a first plurality of said plurality of tests in series.

70. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, further comprising:

said instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a plurality of ordered test phases further comprising instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a plurality of ordered test phases including an execution test phase for executing a plurality of tests on said software application; and

instruction means within said computer readable memory for executing a second plurality of said plurality of tests in parallel.

71. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, further comprising:

said instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a plurality of ordered test phases further comprising instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a plurality of ordered test phases including an execution test phase for executing a plurality of tests on said software application;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for executing a first plurality of said plurality of tests in series; and

instruction means within said computer readable memory for executing said first plurality of said plurality of tests in parallel with a fourth plurality of said plurality of tests.

72. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, further comprising instruction means within said computer readable memory for receiving a job description utilizing said work flow manager, said job description including an identification of said software application and an identification of a plurality of tests to be executed on said software application.

73. (canceled)

74. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, wherein said instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a plurality of ordered test phases further comprises instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an installation test phase for installing test processes and said software application on said plurality of computer systems.

75. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, wherein said instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a plurality of ordered test phases further comprises:

instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an execution test phase for executing a plurality of tests on said software application; and

instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a termination test phase for terminating said execution of said tests.

76. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, further comprising instruction means within said computer readable memory for specifying an order for executing said plurality of ordered test phases including specifying completing execution of an initialization test phase prior to executing an installation test phase, completing execution of said installation test phase prior to executing an execution test phase, and completing execution of said execution test phase prior to executing a termination test phase.

77. (currently amended) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, further comprising instruction means within said computer readable memory during said initialization test phase prior to said software application being available, for preparing said automated test environment to execute said plurality of tests.

78. (currently amended) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, further comprising instruction means within said computer readable memory for generating an initialization event in response to a completion of building said software application.

79. (currently amended) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, wherein said instruction means within said computer readable memory prior to said availability of said software application, for preparing said automated test environment to execute said plurality of tests further comprises instruction means within said computer readable memory for determining an availability of one of said plurality of computer system to be utilized to execute one of said plurality of tests.

80. (currently amended) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, wherein said instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an initialization test phase further comprises instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an initialization test phase including:

instruction means within said computer readable memory for executing initialization test phase processes;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for building said software application; and

instruction means within said computer readable memory for copying said built software application to one of said plurality of computer systems, wherein said software application is available when said built software application is copied to one of said plurality of computer systems.

81. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 80, further comprising instruction means within said computer readable memory for generating an installation event in response to a completion of said copying said built software application to one of said plurality of computer systems and a completion of initialization test phase processes.

82. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 74, wherein said instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an installation test phase further comprises instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an installation test phase including instruction means within said computer readable memory for installing a plurality of test cases on one of said plurality of computer systems.

83. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 74, wherein said instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an installation test phase further comprises instruction means within said computer readable memory for installing an operating system required to execute one of said plurality of tests on one of said plurality of computer systems.

84. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 74, wherein said instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an installation test phase further comprises instruction means within said computer readable memory for installing a plurality of test tools required to execute one of said plurality of tests on one of said plurality of computer systems.

85. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 75, wherein said instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an execution test phase further comprises instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an execution test phase including

instruction means within said computer readable memory for executing said plurality of tests.

86. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 75, wherein said instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a termination test phase further comprises instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a termination test phase including instruction means within said computer readable memory for resetting said automated test environment to an original state.

87. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, further comprising instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a validation procedure including:

instruction means within said computer readable memory for suspending execution of said plurality of tests prior to a completion of said plurality of tests; and

instruction means within said computer readable memory for providing a notification of said suspension.

88. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, further comprising instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a validation procedure including:

instruction means within said computer readable memory for terminating execution of said plurality of tests prior to a completion of said plurality of tests; and

instruction means within said computer readable memory for providing a notification of said termination.

89. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, further comprising instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a validation procedure including:

instruction means within said computer readable memory for executing a process to determine a result of an execution of each said plurality of tests; and

instruction means within said computer readable memory for reporting said result.

90. (original) The ~~computer program product~~ automated software test environment according to claim 67, wherein said instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a plurality of ordered test phases further comprises instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing a plurality of ordered test phases, at least each of two of said plurality of order test phases being executed utilizing different ones of said plurality of computer systems.

91-96. (canceled).

97. (original) A ~~computer program product including~~ An automated software test environment for automatically testing a software application, comprising:

computer readable memory;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an event-driven work flow manager for automatically managing said automated software test environment in response to a receipt of events, said automated software test environment including a plurality of computer systems coupled to a server computer system utilizing a network, said work flow manager being executed utilizing said server computer system;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for executing a plurality of tests on said software application utilizing said plurality of computer systems being managed by said work flow manager;

instruction means within said computer readable memory responsive to a completion of one of said plurality of tests, for executing a validation procedure to validate a result of said one of said plurality of tests;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for suspending execution of others of said plurality of tests being executed in response to a failure of said validation procedure to validate said result of said one of said plurality of tests; and

instruction means within said computer readable memory for providing a notification of said suspension of execution.

98. (original) ~~A computer program product including~~ An automated software test environment for automatically testing a software application, comprising:

computer readable memory;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an event-driven work flow manager for automatically managing said automated software test environment in response to a receipt of events, said automated software test environment including a plurality of computer systems coupled to a server computer system utilizing a network, said work flow manager being executed utilizing said server computer system;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for executing a plurality of tests on said software application utilizing said plurality of computer systems being managed by said work flow manager;

instruction means within said computer readable memory responsive to a completion of one of said plurality of tests, for executing a validation procedure to validate a result of said one of said plurality of tests;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for terminating execution of others of said plurality of tests being executed in response to a failure of said validation procedure to validate said result of said one of said plurality of tests; and

instruction means within said computer readable memory for providing a notification of said termination of execution.

99. (original) ~~A computer program product including~~ An automated software test environment for automatically testing a software application, comprising:

computer readable memory;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for establishing an event-driven work flow manager for automatically managing said automated software test environment in response to a receipt of events, said automated software test environment including a plurality of computer systems coupled to a server computer system utilizing a network, said work flow manager being executed utilizing said server computer system;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for executing a plurality of tests on said software application utilizing said plurality of computer systems being managed by said work flow manager;

instruction means within said computer readable memory responsive to a completion of one of said plurality of tests, for executing a validation procedure to validate a result of said one of said plurality of tests;

instruction means within said computer readable memory for spawning a new process in response to said execution of a validation procedure to determine a result of execution of said one of said plurality of tests; and

instruction means within said computer readable memory for reporting a result of said spawned new process, wherein said result of execution of said one of said plurality of tests is reported.